Return to 5146.

Egypt 46

R

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FOR THE PRESS

OCTOBER 10, 1951 NO. 915

Secretary Acheson today made the following statement at his news conference:

ANGLO-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS

The American Embassy in Cairo has confirmed that the Egyptian Prime Minister on October 8 introduced in the Egyptian Chamber of Deputies draft legislation which would abrogate the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936 and the Anglo-Egyptian Condominium Agreements of 1899 which provide for joint Anglo-Egyptian administration of the Sudan.

The parties directly involved are the United Kingdom and Egypt and, in the case of the 1899 Agreements, the Sudanese people as well. However, these matters are also of general concern to the free world for they affect the security and defense of the important Middle East area.

None of the agreements in question provides for abrogation. The United States Government believes that proper respect for international obligations requires that they be altered by mutual agreement rather than by unilateral action of one of the parties. Furthermore, it should be noted that procedures wholly in accord with such respect for international commitments have already been set in motion.

During past months, new proposals to be offered to Egypt have been under consideration and the Egyptian Government had been informed that proposals were to be presented to it within the next few days. It is the belief of the United States that a solution to the Anglo-Egyptian question can be found through these proposals. The United States considers that the new proposals shortly to be presented to the Egyptian Government should serve as a sound basis for an agreement which will not only satisfy the interests of all parties concerned, but also contribute to the defense of the free world in which the Middle East plays such an important role.

* * *

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY VWolf, JC DATE 5/25/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKING ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS